## In the News

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR** 

Volume 2 Issue 26, December 19, 2003

Special Holiday Issue

Mayor's 2003 Accomplishments

DC Government Website

## A Holiday Message from the Mayor

This past year, our country, city and neighborhoods have endured some trying and some wonderful times—and through it all, we are thankful.

At times, we've endured situations that at first glance seemed impossible to get through, but we persevered. I'm proud of our residents for coming together and swiftly responding to the needs of our community. Remember the blizzard last February? It showed how we continue to rise to the occasion and help each other overcome challenges.

This is a time of year for reflection and a time to count our blessings. I hope during this holiday season we will be able to reconnect with our neighbors and focus on what is important—peace. All of us should find thankfulness in the ability to see another year, a year of hope for the better, and a year of continuing to improve the standard of living for all District residents.



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Let us also remember the men and women from the District of Columbia and around the country defending our great nation. Let us pray for their safe and speedy return.

As always, I challenge you this holiday season to give of yourselves to those who are less fortunate and instead of being critical, be constructive and build a better District of Columbia for not only ourselves but for our children.

This is the season of giving, and that means we all need to slow down, count our blessings and cherish those around us—our family, neighbors, and especially our seniors and young people. As always, I encourage our citizens to look out for each other, check on your neighbors who may be seniors or who may need extra assistance during the holidays.

Residents interested in volunteering during the holidays (or any time) may contact Greater DC Cares, our local volunteer center, or contact an organization directly to offer their time and talent. Interested residents can visit the District of Columbia Website, <a href="https://www.dc.gov">www.dc.gov</a> to find volunteer opportunities. Click on "Volunteer in the Nation's Capital." Or, you can call 1-800-Volunteer to be connected to your local volunteer center.

"In The News" will be taking a short break for the holidays. Stay tuned for our next issue, due out January 9.

Happy holidays to all!



Mayor Anthony A. Williams